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4. (Amended) The sensor system of any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein said controller enters a standby state of low power consumption in response to an end of said processing of said sensor output.

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 remain in this application. Claims 1-4 are rejected. Claim 1 is objected to. Claims 1-4 are amended herein to clarify the invention, broaden language as deemed appropriate and to address matters of form unrelated to substantive patentability issues.

Proposed drawing amendments of Figs. 4-6, having changes indicated in red, accompany this amendment. Additionally, a Letter to the Draftsman pursuant to MPEP 608.02(r) is provided herewith. The applicant elects to delay filing corrected formal drawings until subsequent to the receipt of a Notice of Allowability as per PTOL-37 and CFR §1.85(c).

Claim 1 is objected to and is amendment to remove the basis for rejection. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Sawatari. Applicant herein respectfully traverses these rejections.

The present invention relates to a sensor system that has a controller including a power-supply switch for switching on or off the supply of electrical power to a sensor and a control circuit for turning off said power-supply switch *when* the control circuit accepts the output from said sensor.

According to the invention, since the control circuit turns off the power-supply switch when the control circuit accepts the output from said sensor, it is possible eliminate a problem that supply of electrical power to a sensor is continued in spite of ending of the operation of the sensor.

In contrast to the invention, Sawatari (USP 6330519) fails to disclose or suggest the features of the invention, i.e. Sawatari fails to disclose or suggest the feature that a control circuit turns off a power-supply for the sensor at a time when output from the sensor is accepted. Furthermore, the reference fails to disclose or suggest a switch for switching on or off the supply of electrical power to a sensor when the control circuit accepts output from a sensor.

Regarding energy conservation, Sawatari merely discloses a visibility sensor system that determines sample rate according to measured atmospheric conditions and fails to disclose the timing of stopping supply of electrical power to a sensor when output of the sensor is accepted. Therefore, since Sawatari fails to disclose or suggest the feature that the control circuit turns off the power-supply switch for switching on or off supply of electrical power to the sensor when the control circuit

accepts the output from the sensor, it is impossible to solve a problem that supply of electrical power to the sensor is continued in spite of ending of the operation of the sensor.

With regard to claim 2, the cited reference fails to provide any disclosure regarding accepting sensor output in accordance with an emission signal of the sensor. Still further, the reference fails to relate the circuit structure presented in claim 3 wherein the operation of the emission signal is used to control power to the resistor pull down circuit at the output of the sensor.

Claims 1-3 particularly thus describe and distinctly claim elements not disclosed in the cited reference. Therefore, reconsideration of the rejections of claims 1-3 and their allowance are respectfully requested.

Claim 4 is rejected as obvious over Sawatari under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). The applicant herein respectfully traverses this rejection. For a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) to be sustained, the differences between the features of the combined references and the present invention must be obvious to one skilled in the art.

Sawatari is totally silent on the use of a standby state of operation for the individual sensor systems it discloses. Hence, one reviewing this reference would not be inclined to provide for standby operation. Therefore, reconsideration of the rejection of claim 4 and its allowance are respectfully requested.

Applicant respectfully requests a one month extension of time for responding to the Office Action. Please charge the fee of \$110.00 for the extension of time to Deposit Account No. 10-1250.

In light of the foregoing, the application is now believed to be in proper form for allowance of all claims and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 10-1250.

Respectfully submitted,
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enc: Letter to Draftsman with proposed drawing amendments of Figs. 4-6.